## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The inventions provide an improved treatment for hepatic encephalopathy characterized by hyperammonemia and/or constipation, comprising the oral administration of polyethylene glycol (PEG) in amounts sufficient to reduce plasma levels of ammonia and/or to alleviate constipation. Preferably, the PEG is administered in combination with lactulose, which provides a palatable composition for the treatment of HE with excellent therapeutic benefits and reduced side effects as compared to lactulose alone.